

PIONEER DAY: SEPTEMBER 2, 1929

Among the historical documents collected by Lois T. (Norton) Curtis is a newspaper clipping entitled "Pioneer Day At Clinton Centre," which was published in The Wayne Independent on a Saturday following the Pioneer Day celebration of September 2, 1929, probably the issue of The Wayne Independent that was published on September 7, 1929. It is from a xerographic copy of that newspaper clipping that S. Robert Powell typed the copy that is given below. Written in pencil on the top of this clipping is "1929."

Pioneer Day At Clinton Centre

Pioneer Day program is held each Labor Day at Clinton Centre Baptist church. It has come to be an important annual event. Old time residents and settlers and their descendants gather for a good time and renew old acquaintances and meeting old friends. This year they are there from the state of Washington, Mississippi, New York, New Jersey and Massachusetts. About 200 partook of the bountiful dinner provided by the Cemetery Association and Ladies Aid society of the church.

At two o'clock all gathered in the church for the entertainment. Rev. Mrs. Bush gave the opening prayer. William Rude, the president, called on the choir led by Arthur Curtis and America was sung. The minutes of the last meeting; of Labor Day 1928 were read by Mrs. Hobart Curtis, secretary. The president then announced there would be a song by the Terrel brothers. Two sons of Ed. Terrel, aged 8 and 10 years, came to the platform and sang O Susanna, Don't Cry for Me, with voices clear as a bell and every word distinctly spoken. For an encore they sang "All Alone in the Moonlight."

Ruth Merwin, granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. Howard Bunting then read the history of the Bunting family. Then the song, Faith is the Victory.

Master Willie Bartholomay recited Lincoln's Gettysburg address. He is the grandson of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Curtis and is only 5 years old, but every word was distinctly spoken, and emphasis given to the out-standing words and sentences. It could not have been better recited by a senior, of high school. Miss Norvell Curtis then sang The Bells of St. Marys in a very acceptable manner.

The principal speaker of the day was Prof. Dunseith of The Technical high school of Scranton. He gave a vision of the early settlers on their way from their homes to the place in the wilderness that they chose for their homes, and of the hardships they endured.